

STATE CAPITAL HAPPENINGS

Oklahoma City.

The annual convention of the Oklahoma Educational Association will be held in Oklahoma City, November 25, 26 and 27, it was decided officially last week by the executive committee of the organization in session in the offices of the state department of education.

There will be many features in connection with this year's convention, and officials of the association are confident in predicting that the greatest throng of teachers ever registered at an educational gathering in this state will be on hand. Prominent among the features will be the annual clash between the Sooner and Aggie football teams which will be at Fair park on Thanksgiving day, or the opening day of the convention. Arrangements for the game to be played here instead of at Stillwater or Norman, as is usual, were put through partly as the results of State Superintendent R. H. Wilson, who is president of the educational association.

President Wilson declares that he will exert every effort to make the convention in November the greatest success in the history of the association. He now is working on the program and asserts that one unique indeed as compared with those of the past will be worked out. The program will be completed to the last detail by September 3, when the executive committee again will meet and after going over plans will announce the list of speakers and also the entertainment events prepared for the visitors.

The committee authorized President Wilson to arrange for hotel headquarters, and also to secure an auditorium for the convention. The high-school auditorium, churches and hotel halls will be used, as heretofore, he said.

Uniform Gasoline Prices Called For.

Concerns retailing gasoline must establish a uniform set of prices over the state, according to an order issued by the corporation commission in which citizens of Poteau charged the Pierce Oil Corporation, the Gay Oil Company, the Texas Company and the Magnolia Petroleum Company with discriminating between cities in the eastern part of the state.

When gasoline was selling for 16 cents a gallon in Poteau in May, the same companies were putting it on the market at McAlester for 12 cents, at Muskogee for 12 cents, at Hugo for 12½ cents, at Bartlesville for 11 cents and at Fort Smith and Greenwood, Ark., for 12 and 11 cents, respectively.

The commission held that there apparently was no reason for charging more for gasoline at Poteau than at Fort Smith, as the supply used was manufactured in Oklahoma and that shipped to Arkansas had to be transported through Poteau.

The order, which will be known as No. 332, decreed that henceforth the same prices were to obtain throughout the state, save that the actual cost of transportation could be added.

A similar order was issued in the case of citizens of Texas county against the Pierce Corporation.

Finish Capitol December 1, 1916.

Complete execution of the contract for the building of the Oklahoma state capitol will not be effected until the latter part of this week, as representatives of James Stewart & Co., the successful bidder, has asked time to communicate with the New York concern before final consummation of the contract. It is not expected that there will be any hitch in the transaction as now practically concluded.

Under the terms of the contract the house and senate chambers and committee rooms of the proposed structure are to be completed in such condition as to be conveniently occupied by December 1, 1916. The building itself is to be completed within 750 days from the date of executing the contract. Governor Williams regards the contract as iron-clad throughout.

State Gets \$245,967.

For the fiscal year ending June 30 the insurance department turned into the state treasury the total sum of \$245,967.99. Of this amount, \$236,697.31 was placed in the general revenue fund and \$9,270.68 went to the fire marshal's fund, according to the figures prepared and contained in the annual report of Insurance Commissioner Welch.

During the year the entire expenses of the department was \$15,868.55. This included salaries, printing, office maintenance, and the expenses of installing the work of the new insurance board. During the month of June all receipts for agents' licenses went to the insurance board and are not included in the above figures.

Anti-Illiteracy Campaign.

Plans for a whirlwind state-wide educational campaign to be opened November 14 and continue until the meeting of the Oklahoma Educational Association, November 25, were formed by the recently named rural school improvements commission. This step will be the inauguration of the commission's sharp fight against illiteracy which is expected to eliminate the illiterate in Oklahoma by 1918. Launching of the educational campaign will follow the opening of moonlight schools.

Phone Instruments To Be Taxed.

Transmitters, receivers and induction coils on all the Pioneer Company's telephones in Oklahoma will be taxed this year for the first time, it was asserted by members of the state board of equalization, after the board by a vote of 5 to 2 had raised the assessed valuation of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company's holding in the state \$288,000.

Investigation by the board disclosed, it was stated, that all the receivers, transmitters and induction coils used by the Pioneer are leased to the concern by the American, and in the past had been omitted by boards of equalization.

The American's total Oklahoma valuation was fixed finally at \$500,000. The remaining \$300,000 is assessed on its other holdings held by the Pioneer and other concerns. In 1914 the company was assessed at \$212,000. The Pioneer was assessed finally several weeks ago at \$7,371,000.

Prairie Well Boosted.

In fixing the tentative assessment of the Prairie Pipe Line Company of independence, assessed this year for the first time, as it was chartered only a few months ago, the board made an enormous increase over the return filed by the company. The Oklahoma valuation of this corporation as returned to the state auditors is \$2,314,542, and the tentative figure set by the board is \$13,907,813.

That the final assessment will be approximately as large as the tentative was declared by members of the board who asserted that experts had been working for days on the company's reports to the corporation commission. They said that if any reduction is made it probably will be small.

Other large increases made were in the cases of the Oklahoma Natural Gas Company of Tulsa, which was tentatively assessed at \$5,322,013 on a return of \$1,405,825, and the Oklahoma Pipe Line Company of Muskogee, assessed \$5,000,000 on a return of \$986,000. The Bartlesville Water Company was tentatively assessed at \$120,000, an increase of \$16,000 over last year, and the Broken Arrow Gas Company, a new corporation, at \$20,000.

Gault Reports on Department Funds.

Some records of financial business transacted in the department of agriculture in 1914 were improperly kept and others are missing, according to the annual report of President Frank M. Gault. Gault's report explained this because the report failed to show the balance on hand at the end of the various months of last year.

Total money received by the department since the incumbency of Gault as president amounts to \$16,534.35, it is shown. Of this \$14,860.66 came from the pure food department, \$983.10 from the dairy department, \$557.42 from the fertilizer department, and \$132.17 from miscellaneous sources.

The section of the report showing the condition of the various funds appropriated for the department's use by the legislature showed that \$2,488.22 of the \$2,500 allotted to the fund for contingent expenses has been used leaving a balance at the end of the fiscal year of \$11.78. To the close of the year only \$2,101.64 of the \$10,000 appropriation for prevention of the foot and mouth disease has been spent and a balance of \$7,898.36 is left. Condition of the funds appropriated for use by the various agricultural schools under the supervision of the board is good, the report declares.

Land Loans Ready Within Short Time.

Within a short time, possible before September 1, the school land department will be ready to make loans under the provisions of the new home ownership law. Secretary George Smith declared. More than 250 applications for loans already have been received and placed on record to await disposal.

Smith said the appointment of J. H. Miley as attorney for the land office means that the loans will be available shortly. The work of drawing up the proper application blanks and record forms now can be attended to, he stated. Miley will devote practically all his time to the school land department as soon as the railway rate case is finished.

Ellis Is New Oil Inspector.

T. J. Ellis of Ochelata, Washington county, is to be the new oil and gas inspector for the school land department. This is the position that has been filled by R. S. Lunsford for the past several years.

Governor Pardons Aged Veteran.

An unconditional pardon was granted by Governor R. L. Williams to A. N. Byers of Gotebo, an ex-federal soldier, convicted in 1905 of manslaughter and sentenced to fifteen years in prison. He is 71 years old. Byers was paroled in 1910 by Governor Haskell and in 1911 Governor Cruce granted him a more liberal pardon which restored his rights of citizenship. According to the petitioners Governor Williams received asking a pardon, he has made an ideal citizen since first being released.

OKLAHOMA NEWS NOTES

SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

Nov. 25-27—State Educational Association, Oklahoma City.

Fairs, Picnics and Carnivals.

Aug. 31-Sept. 4—Eight annual reunion, Southwestern Blue and Gray Association, Bridgeport.
Sept. 1-3, Pontotoc County Fair, Ada.
Sept. 7-9, Ringier Fair.
Sept. 7-10, Kingfisher County Fair, Kingfisher.
Sept. 8-11, Greer County Fair, Mangum.
Sept. 9-10, Johnston County Fair, Tishomingo.
Sept. 14-15, Woodward County Fair, Mutual.
Sept. 14-17, Pittsburg County Fair, McAlester.
Sept. 14-17, Cimarron Valley Fair, Guthrie.
Sept. 15-18, Bryan County Fair, Durant.
Sept. 15-17, Tulsa County Fair, Tulsa.
Sept. 15-18, The Sterling Fair, Sterling.
Sept. 16, Cherokee Celebration, Perry.
Sept. 16-17, Harmon County Fair, Hollis.
Sept. 16-17, Kiowa County Fair, Hobart.
Sept. 16-18, Cleveland County Fair, Norman.
Sept. 16-18, Jackson County Fair, Altus.
Sept. 16-18, Lincoln County Fair, Prague.
Sept. 16-18, Washita County Fair, Cordell.
Sept. 17-18, Tillman County Fair, Frederick.
Sept. 17-18, Coal County Fair, Coalgate.
Sept. 17-18, Marshall County Fair, Madill.
Sept. 18-21, Creek County Fair, Sapulpa.
Sept. 20-22, Atoka County Fair, Atoka.
Sept. 21-22, Pottawatomie County Fair, Shawnee.
Sept. 21-23, Peanut Carnival, Duncan.
Sept. 21-24, Pawnee County Fair, Halsett.
Sept. 21-24, Beckham County Fair, Elk City.
Sept. 22-24, Canadian County Fair, En Route.
Sept. 22-25, Kiamichi Valley Fair, Tahlequah.
Sept. 25, Football, State University vs. Sept. 26-Oct. 2, State Fair, Oklahoma City.
Sept. 27, Old Soldiers' Day, State Fair.
Sept. 27, Indiana Day, State Fair.
Sept. 27, Fraternal Day, State Fair.
Sept. 28, Kentucky Day, State Fair.
Oct. 1, Missouri Day, State Fair.
Oct. 1, Press Day, State Fair.
Oct. 4-9, New-State Fair, Muskogee.
Oct. 5-9, Caddo County Fair, Anadarko.
Dec. 27-Jan. 1, Eastern Oklahoma Fowltry Show, Tulsa.

Judge Frank Olmuth has received notice from Washington of his appointment as postmaster of Guthrie.

Dave E. Booker, former chief of police of Ardmore, was appointed receiver of the Ardmore Electric Railway Company.

A man and woman, both deaf and dumb, were arrested on the streets of Pond Creek on a charge of disturbing the peace and each fined \$7.25.

All oil field workers, just the same as men employed in other lines of endeavor, are entitled to benefits under the workmen's compensation law, according to the belief of members of the state industrial commission.

Trial of the Henry Starr gang of bank robbers, including Starr himself when called on the docket at Chandler was postponed until August 2. Starr represented that he had not retained an attorney. He has not been arraigned.

While playing with a shotgun in the absence of their parents from home, the little son of Sam Keith, of Lone Grove, Carter county, accidentally discharged the weapon. The load struck his small sister in the head almost completely severing it from the body.

Dr. Charles B. Hill of Guthrie has been appointed superintendent of the state asylum for the insane at Fort Supply, succeeding Dr. E. S. Newell, resigned. The salary is \$2,000 a year, and Dr. Hill will take charge August 1. The place was first offered to Dr. Wm. Rucks of Guthrie.

From returns submitted by seventy-two of the seventy-seven counties in the state and from action already taken by the state board of equalization on the great majority of the public service corporations, State Auditor E. B. Howard estimated that the assessed valuation of Oklahoma this year will be approximately \$2,282,700,000, or about \$100,000,000 above 1914.

Boise City, the "farthest west" town in Oklahoma having any commercial importance, now boasts a bank—the First State Bank of Boise—which opened for business last week.

The state board of equalization has discovered that tank cars to the value of \$3,263,204.60 operating in the Mid-Continent field have never been assessed. There are 5,019 cars used in that field of which 3,185 are credited to Oklahoma. The board also has discovered that the Guyton Electric Light Company, at Guyton, Okla., was not on the state's tax rolls for the years 1909 and 1910. Both companies will be assessed this year.

When Bob Newberry, 26 years old, grabbed "Texas Jack" Clemshire's horse at Dewey the latter shoved him away. This angered Newberry who slapped Clemshire twice across the face and body with a knife. Clemshire started to run and when he saw Newberry was going to overtake him, he hit Newberry over the head with a board. Newberry dropped dead with his skull crushed. Clemshire, who is 24 years old, is held for murder.

Lottie Martin, aged 6, died in a hospital at Vinita as a result of injuries received when she was run down by a Katy freight train near Kelso. A sister, hurt at the same time, is dying.

Martin Clark of McAlester, a former deputy mine inspector, was appointed by Governor R. L. Williams as a member of the state mining board. This is the first appointment on the mining board since Governor Haskell's administration. Under the Cruce rule all old members held over.

IN THE ENGINE ROOM

Places of Stress When Battleship Is in Action.

Fighting Strain Becomes of an Intensity Hard to Imagine—Deadly Torpedo the Weapon That Is Most Feared.

Let us, as a matter of interest, imagine that we are in the engine room of a modern dreadnaught in action. On each side of us, unobtrusively stowed away in their mahogany, brass-bound cases, are the great turbines. Their humming—though we cannot see them—fills the vast space with the sound of a million bees let loose. Near each one hovers a grimy stoker, oil can in hand, and his duty it is to see that these monster humming tops do not lack for lubrication.

Right in front, on the foremost bulkhead of the engine room, are the telegraph dials and the telephones, each of which is in connection with the bridge, and under the direct control of the captain. These are the things which tell us how the fight is going, for the keen engineer can read signs and portents in the changes which are rung upon the telegraph dials.

A tremendous thing is the fighting strain. It is bad even up in the great turrets where men play their parts in the grim drama, and hurl death and destruction at the foe, but down here, where one does nothing but wait for orders, it is terrible.

The only man who does not seem to feel the strain is the one who has apparently the least to do, and that is the engineer. He, however, is busily doing mental arithmetic. He knows how many revolutions his screws are doing per minute, and he realizes that as yet she has still a little bit of speed up her sleeve.

By and by that last half knot may be asked for, and he is calculating how much speed he will be able to present the captain with when that final effort is asked for. No one knows but he, and he won't tell.

There seems to be a kind of waiting expression on most of the faces, and if they could tell you what they were all waiting for it would surprise you. Shut up as they are in a small steel box of machinery, they are not thinking of the chance of an enemy's projectile coming through and killing them, nor are they waiting for death to come to them in some other manner. What they are dreading is that something should go wrong with their beloved engines—something that would prevent their "doing their bit" in this fight.

They are listening—ever listening—for the hiss of escaping steam which will tell them of a main steam pipe bit and carried away; for the shot that might smash one of the boilers into small pieces; for the rattle of the steering engine as the rudder is blown away, and the ship hangs, without a guide, in the balance.

And then, with a sickening sidelong twist and a rattle of the steering engine, the floor of the engine room takes on a sickening slant. The ship has made a sudden and acute turn. The engineer's face turns from

cheery optimistic red to a fear-stricken pallor.

"My God!" he mutters. "Submarines!" Every man in that engine room and every stoker in the stokeholds knows what that sudden and horrible twist means. It means that the ship has commenced a quadrille with death; that underwater craft are seeking to end her life and the fight at the same time.

The strained look has gone now. Everyone is eager and anxious to do but one thing, and that is to obey the orders which come down from the bridge as fast as they possibly can be obeyed. The bridge is having an anxious time, but the men in the depths trust it and reckon it is up to dealing with the bigger "stilla of submarines that the owns, any day.

Then, while the ship is running all she knows, the unexpected happens. With a louder and more sudden roar than ever the steering engine rattles over to hard a port. At precisely the same second the telegraph rings "Full astern, starboard engine. Full ahead port." The ship takes a horrible heel as the rudders—two of them—grip her; the port screw slows down perceptibly as it feels the mighty column of water deflected from the rudder, and the starboard one hums along smoothly as it feels the reversed turbine's thrust.

And even as they spin round the men can hear the guns putting in good work and blazing away for all they are worth. Ten minutes later the enemy's fleet—or what is left of them—are steaming for harbor again as fast as they can go.

Imagine yourself shut up in a chattering, humming steel box, with the odds on being killed, either by shell, or torpedo explosion, or drowning, or scalding to death, and with Death himself throwing all sorts of missiles at you which you can't even see coming, and you will have a very good idea of what being in a battleship's engine room is like in a real pitched battle.

Tough Luck.

"You remember that chap Jones who made a bet of ten thousand dollars that he would walk from San Francisco to New York without a cent in his pocket?"

"Yes. Did he win the bet?"

"Not quite. He got as far as Philadelphia, and there he was arrested as a vagrant and forced against his will to ride three blocks in a patrol wagon. That disqualified him."

Her Own Business.

A woman mounted the steps of the elevated station carrying an umbrella like a reversed saber. An attendant touched her lightly, saying:

"Excuse me, madam, but you are likely to put out the eye of the man behind you."

"He's my husband!" she snapped calmly.

Safety First.

"How did the accident happen?"

"He got run over when he stopped to read a 'Safety First' sign."

Equitable Division.

"Did you divide the cruller as I told you with your little brother?"

"Yes, ma. I gave him the hole."

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Health and Excitement.

The sick rate in Russia has decreased since the war began. Part of the improvement—doubtless the greater part—is due to the passing of vodka, but something must be said for the curious way in which the human frame reacts to excitement and develops resistance to disease under the stimulus of strong interests or emotions.

The refugees from San Francisco, for example, had not been devotees of vodka, but they showed a wonderful health record during their period of enforced open-air life and short commons.

A Greater Surprise.

"Where are you going, ma?" asked the youngest of five children.

"I'm going to a surprise party, my dear," answered the mother.

"Are we all going, too?"

"No, dear; you weren't invited."

After a few moments' deep thought:

"Say, ma, then don't you think they'd be lots more surprised if you did take us all?"

No Time.

"Isn't it strange that Mrs. Robinson never attends the Mothers' club meetings. We've invited her time and again."

"I'm afraid she's a hopeless old fogey. She insists on staying home to take care of her children."

As president of the French republic M. Poincaré receives a salary of \$120,000 per annum.



Lunch Prepared in a Jiffy

Now for a rest while waiting for John.

Post Toasties

are always ready to eat right from the package—sweet, crisp and tempting.

And what a relief from fussing around in a stuffy kitchen on hot days.

The lunch is a good one—and John likes to find the wife cool and comfortable.

Post Toasties are thin bits of white Indian corn toasted to a golden brown. Eat with cream and sugar—and some fresh berries—They are delicious.